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REPORT
OF THE
Committee on the Penitentiary,
TO THE
SENATE
OF THE
STATE OF LOUISIANA.



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REPORT.

*To the President and Members of the Senate of the State of
Louisiana, in General Assembly convened :*

The committee on the State Penitentiary beg leave to report, that in conjunction with a special committee of the House, appointed for that purpose, they have carefully examined the accounts and vouchers of the Lessees of the Penitentiary, embracing the term of their administration from the commencement of their lease, on the 1st of April, 1857, to the 31st of December, 1860, and they have found them entirely correct and satisfactory, except that the Lessees have charged to the expense account, interest on the sums borrowed to carry on the Penitentiary and the cost of certain structures and improvements made by them, neither of which is authorized by law. Your committee is clearly of the opinion that these charges ought to be recognized and allowed by the State, as these improvements seem to have been absolutely necessary, and the borrowing of the money to carry on the operations of the partnership, has prevented the necessity of forcing the products of the Penitentiary into market at a ruinous sacrifice, and the State and the Lessees have been mutually benefitted thereby.

The current account, of which a synoptical statement is herewith presented, shows an indebtedness on the part of the State to the Lessees, on the 31st of December, 1860, of \$45,126 05, which is represented by the machinery, buildings and other improvements, etc., placed and erected in the Penitentiary by the said Lessees.

The Lessees propose to terminate their partnership with the State on terms which appear to your committee equitable and advantageous to the State. They propose to have their lease extended and continued, under the supervision and control of the State, as at present, to the 1st of April, 1861—that they may be relieved from the requirement of law to pay annually into the Treasury one-half of the profits arising from the Penitentiary—and that in consideration of said extension of the lease of said relinquishment, the said Lessees at the termination of their lease, shall deliver to the State, free of all cost or charge whatever, the cotton and woollen machinery, purchased,

or which may be hereafter purchased by the Lessees for the Institution, as well as the tools belonging to the various workshops that are on hand or that may be hereafter purchased; that they shall also deliver to the State, without any cost or charge whatever, all the buildings and works that have been or may hereafter be erected, or any improvements that have been or may hereafter be made by them, at the Penitentiary; and that all accounts which the said lessees may have against the State on account of their administration of the Penitentiary, shall be considered and deemed paid, and that the State shall also be released from any obligation to purchase from the Lessees any part of the stock of any kind whatever that they may have on hand at the termination of their lease.

Your committee believing this proposition to be entirely equitable and manifestly advantageous to the State, report herewith a bill in conformity thereto, and recommend its passage by the General Assembly.

Your committee cannot close this report without expressing their high appreciation of the admirable discipline and internal management of the Penitentiary during the time it has been under the administration of the present Lessees. It would be difficult to bring the discipline to greater perfection, or to be more considerate of the comfort and well being of the convicts, than what is witnessed in our Penitentiary at the present time.

Respectfully submitted,

A. L. TUCKER,
Chairman of the Committee.

Statement of Goods Sold from 1st April, 1857, to 31st December, 1860, and the Amount of Sales.

From.	To.	Number Bales Goods.	Number of Yards.	Number Bales Batting.	Amount of Sales.
1st April, 1857.....	31st December, 1857.....	1,348	753,228	204	\$ 88,791 16
1st January, 1858.....	31st December, 1858.....	2,684	1,488,657	977	158,771 81
1st January, 1859.....	31st December, 1859.....	4,789	2,638,714	164	285,670 57
1st January, 1860.....	31st December, 1860.....	3,256	1,757,315	70	210,428 79
On hand December 31st, 1860, as per Inventory.....		12,077	6,637,914	1,415	\$ 743,662 33
		1,869	1,027,951	118	117,508 27
Total.....		13,946	7,665,865	1,533	\$ 861,170 60

In three years and nine months the Factory has produced 13,946 bales of Goods—7,665,865 yards—and 1,533 bales of Batting; the sales of 12,077 bales Goods and 1,415 bales Batting have amounted to..... \$743,662 33
 And the stock on hand 31st December, 1860, as per Inventory, amount to..... 117,508 27

Showing the gross product of the Factory (with Goods now on hand) to be..... \$861,170 60

Statement of the Total Purchases of Cotton and Wool from 1st of April, 1857, to 31st December, 1860, and Cost of same.

From.	To.	Number Bales Cotton.	Number Pounds Cotton.	No. Pounds Wool.	Total Cost of Cotton and Wool.
1st April, 1857.....	31st December, 1857.....	1,857	819,058	\$ 105,202 41
1st January, 1858.....	31st December, 1858.....	2,457	1,069,519	123,533 60
1st January, 1859.....	31st December, 1859.....	4,983	2,130,887	36,057	241,051 52
1st January, 1860.....	31st December, 1860.....	2,081	870,868	94,794	106,652 13
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Deduct amount on hand December 31st, 1860, as per Inventory.....		11,378 499	4,890,332 202,075	130,851 19,830	\$ 576,489 66 26,194 25
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Total Cotton and Wool consumed.....		10,879	4,688,257	111,021	\$ 550,295 41

Amount of Goods manufactured as per statement above..... \$ 861,170 60
Amount of materials used to manufacture these Goods, viz:
10,879 bales Cotton, weighing 4,688,257 lbs., and 111,021 lbs. Wool, the cost of which is..... 550,295 41
Shewing gross profits of Factory, for three years and nine months, to be \$ 310,875 19

Statement of the number of Brick made, the number sold, and amount received for same, from April 1, 1857, to Dec. 31, 1860.

From.	To.	Number of Brick.	Amount.
1st April, 1857.....	31st December, 1857.....	2,404,253	\$ 17,431 44
1st January, 1858.....	31st December, 1858.....	662,878	5,867 19
1st January, 1859.....	31st December, 1859.....	1,996,824	16,536 29
1st January, 1860.....	31st December, 1860.....	2,263,805	18,069 21
On hand 31st December, 1860, as per Inventory.....		7,332,760	\$ 57,904 13
		767,360	6,138 88
		8,100,120	\$ 64,043 01

Statement of number of Cords Wood purchased from 1st April, 1857, to 31st December, 1860.

From.	To.	Number Cords of Wood.	Cost of Wood.
1st April, 1857.....	31st December, 1857.....	1,572	\$ 5,576 25
1st January, 1858.....	31st December, 1858.....	1,638	5,159 99
1st January, 1859.....	31st December, 1859.....	1,936	7,036 70
1st January, 1860.....	31st December, 1860.....	2,770	10,396 63
Deduct amount on hand 31st December, 1860.....		7,916	\$ 28,169 57
		987	3,454 50
Amount consumed.....		6,929	\$ 24,715 07
			Gross profit of Brick-Yard...\$ 39,327 94
			Product of Brick-Yard.....\$ 64,043 01
			Cost of material 24,715 07

The Lessees have paid for Cotton and Woollen Machinery purchased by them, to date.....	\$ 76,789 56
Amount due Lessees for buildings and improvements.....	7,963 49
Amount due Lessees by the State, as per annual statement...	2,499 05
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	\$ 87,252 10
New boilers and machinery to be added this year.....	3,000 00
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	<u>\$90,252 10</u>
The net profits for three years and nine months, up to the 31st December, 1860; amount to.....	\$91,553 68
	<u><u> </u></u>

One-half of which, say \$45,776 83, is credited to machinery purchased by Lessees, and one-half, say \$45,776 85, is to the credit of Lessees, and constitute so much capital in the business.

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